

HONORING ED GOTTHARDT

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of the late Ed Gotthardt, former Mayor of Seguin, Texas. Mayor Gotthardt served the community through his distinguished business career and great service as mayor for two terms in Seguin, Texas.

Mayor Gotthardt was born on January 1929 in Galle, Texas and passed away of natural causes February 2010 in New Braunfels, Texas. His accomplished lifetime as a businessman and mayor stemmed from his humble beginnings. His childhood was spent on a farm in Galle in a town between Seguin and San Marcos where he learned about produce. He received his education in the public schools of Guadalupe County, where he graduated from high school. At the age of twenty-one, the late Gotthardt was hired as a produce worker at a local grocery store. With a twelfth grade education, he rose through the ranks to store manager, unit director, to the corporate office as a buyer and then as Vice President of Produce Marketing. In the 1980s, he retired having lived during his career throughout the area in Seguin, San Antonio, and Corpus Christi. The late Gotthardt had a thirty-seven year career in the grocery business before serving two three-year terms as Mayor. After his retirement, he later served as President of the H-E-B grocery store retirees' organization.

In 1990, Gotthardt announced that he planned to run for mayor of Seguin. He had not previously held any position in public office, but his involvement with the community and commitment to the people of Seguin aided to his election. His re-election was without opposition, serving as mayor until 1996. During his time in office, Mayor Gotthardt contributed to the city by ensuring that the Sebastopol State Historical Park in Seguin was renovated and dedicated much of his work for those who served their country in the military. He worked on the Veterans Memorial at the Guadalupe County Courthouse extensively. The late Mayor Gotthardt was recognized for his tireless efforts to ensure the community and people were provided the services needed.

Along with his business career and terms as Mayor of Seguin, the late Gotthardt was a member of Seguin Masonic Lodge AF&AM 109, Alzafar Shrine, Elks Lodge 1229, Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 555, the Seguin Chamber of Commerce, the Seguin Rotary Club and the Comal County Seniors Center. His leisure time was spent with the Seguin Chamber of Commerce, senior center, and with his family.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the late Ed Gotthardt, former Mayor of Seguin, Texas on his contributions to the community. I thank you for this time.

COMMENDING THE NORTH
CLACKAMAS CHAMBER COMMU-
NITY SAFETY HONOREES**HON. KURT SCHRADER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, for the third year, the North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce in my district is holding a Community Safety Luncheon to recognize the members of the community whose actions have improved public safety in our local neighborhoods. For some of these men and women, they're first responders and public safety employees who regularly go above and beyond the call of duty in their jobs. For others, they are tireless volunteers, giving up hours of their free time to improve the lives of their neighbors. But all of them are being recognized today because of the importance of what they do and because the support of community members like these is key to the success of public safety departments throughout the country.

I'd like to take a minute to recognize the brave and selfless men, women and organizations who are being honored by the North Clackamas Chamber today:

American Medical Response River Rescue, which worked to turn a local community swimming hole on the Clackamas River from a dangerous site where drowning deaths were an all too regular occurrence to a safe swimming location for the community.

Amy Bullard, a retired teacher from the Oregon Trail School District, who helped train over 1,000 students at Sandy High School in lifesaving skills when she incorporated CPR and first aid training into the tenth grade health classes.

Damascus Community Church, which has hosted shelter trainings and been a leader in the community in emergency management operations with their participation in community safety events.

Angela Fox, publisher of the Clackamas Review and Oregon City News, who works to provide the community with in-depth reporting on public safety issues, using the media to educate and inform the public.

Olga Gerberg, a volunteer from Sandy who has coordinated bike helmet fitting and child safety seat inspection workshops for the local community and regularly reaches out to her neighbors to share safety information about available resources and services.

Tom Hogan, the volunteer coordinator for the Gladstone Emergency Management Support team who volunteers his time to improve emergency preparedness in the community, training other volunteers and working to bring grant funding to the community.

Dale Kim, with the Clackamas County Juvenile Department, who serves as the lead organizer for the Sandy Youth Service Team and whose work reaching out to at-risk youth and intervention and prevention services have helped countless community youth. The Milwaukie Public Safety Foundation, which has raised over \$20,000 to start a K-9 program for the Milwaukie Police Department and supports the department by conducting an annual Office of the Year function and a Parent Awareness Night.

Jeff Oliver, with the Lake Oswego Police Department, who volunteers to assist at the

monthly Child Safety Seat Fitting Station and has trained, certified, and re-certified 36 CPS technicians in North Clackamas County.

Portland Mountain Rescue, a volunteer organization that provides specialized search and rescue services to Mt. Hood and other areas in the region and participated in 10 mountain rescues in 2008, in addition to providing outdoor and wilderness safety training to the community.

And Larry Alexander, from the Boring Water District, who is the first recipient of the North Clackamas Chamber's Shining Star Safety Award, for his work in securing funding for the water district as well as his work in establishing an effective notification system to notify all Boring Water customers of an emergency in under one minute. He's also been an active volunteer in his home community, starting a neighborhood watch with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

To these men and women as well as every other community safety volunteer who does their part to keep our neighborhoods safe, I say thank you for all that you do.

RECOGNIZING THE DIFFICULT CHALLENGES AND HEROISM OF BLACK VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the challenges and difficulties that our Black veterans encounter as they embark on reintegrating to civilian life. I would also like to commend the Honorable LARRY KISSELL for introducing H. Con. Res. 238, and his conviction on recognizing the importance of their military sacrifices and patriotism.

The story of the African American soldier is one of extraordinary faith, hope and determination in the face of bitter disappointment over denial of their well-earned rights to full citizenship. It is a story of inspiration, leadership and a refusal to accept "no" for an answer. Ultimately, it is a story of their victory over legal segregation and discrimination. Their story speaks of their long struggle for equality and willingness, in each instance, to forsake violence in their struggle for justice.

Black Americans have fought for their country going back to the Revolutionary War when 5,000 Black men risked their lives in the cause of independence. Serving in the Continental Army, mostly as infantry and artillerymen, they fought in the first battles at Lexington and Concord, and crossed the Delaware with George Washington. Overwhelmingly, they resisted the enticements of the British enemy, who offered promises of freedom if they would join the Redcoats. Yet, after the victory, the first of Black America's military heroes were met, not with parades or accolades, but with whips and chains as they as they surrendered their weapons for bondage on the plantation.

African Americans also served in the War of 1812 when the Battalion of Free Men of Color helped to save New Orleans in a counter-attack against the British invaders. The nation reneged on the rhetoric of General and later president Andrew Jackson who told the Black fighters, "You surprised my hopes. The nation will applaud your valor."